

PATENT CLAIMS

1. Wound care product, comprising a substance which inhibits the growth of bacteria in wounds, characterized in that the substance is xylitol.
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2. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said wound care product comprises an ointment which contains xylitol.
3. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the
10 wound care product comprises a powder which contains xylitol.
4. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said wound care product comprises a gel into which xylitol has been introduced.
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5. Wound care product according to Claim 4, characterized in that the said gel is a silicone gel.
6. Wound care product according to one of Claims 3-5, characterized in
20 that xylitol in crystalline form has been introduced into the gel.
7. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said wound care product contains a polymer foam into which xylitol in aqueous solution has been introduced in conjunction with the polymer
25 foam being formed.
8. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said wound care product contains a polymer foam into which xylitol in crystalline form has been introduced in conjunction with the polymer
30 foam being formed.

9. Wound care product according to Claim 7 or 8, characterized in that the said polymer foam contains a water-soluble polymer.
10. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the wound care product consists of or comprises a layer which directly contacts the wound during use and which is permeable to wound liquid, in that the layer comprises a gel and a lattice-like reinforcement, in that the gel has been applied so that it encloses all the lattice parts but leaves through-holes in the layer formed by the gel and the reinforcement, and in that xylitol has been introduced into the gel.
11. Wound care product according to Claim 10, characterized in that the said lattice-like reinforcement is elastic and in that the gel is soft and elastic.
12. Wound care product according to Claim 10 or 11, characterized in that the said layer is hydrophobic and does not adhere to discharging wounds.
13. Wound care product according to Claim 10, characterized in that the said gel is a silicone gel.
14. Wound care product according to one of Claims 10-13, characterized in that the reinforcement comprises a soft, flexible and elastically stretchable network of textile material.
15. Wound care product according to Claim 1, characterized in that the wound care product comprises a dressing and in that xylitol has been applied to a support which is included in this dressing.
16. Wound care product according to Claim 15, characterized in that the support is gauze.

17. Wound care product according to Claim 15, characterized in that the support is a nonwoven fabric.
- 5 18. Wound care product according to Claim 15, characterized in that the support is a polymer foam possessing open pores.
- 10 19. Wound care product according to Claim 15, characterized in that the support is a water-soluble polymer foam.
20. Wound care product according to one of the preceding claims and in the form of a dressing, characterized in that the said dressing contains an absorbent layer for taking up secreted wound liquid.
- 15 21. Wound care product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the wound care product is sterile as a whole and is packaged in a sterile manner.
- 20 22. Method for manufacturing a wound care product according to one of Claims 15-19, characterized in that xylitol is applied to the support in the form of a solution.
- 25 23. Method according to Claim 22, characterized in that the support is then dried.
24. Method according to Claim 22 or 23, characterized in that the wound care product and an appurtenant packaging are sterilized.
- 30 25. Use of a substance in wound care products, which substance inhibits the growth of bacteria in wounds, characterized in that the said substance is xylitol.

26. Use according to Claim 25, characterized in that the said substance is in powder form.
27. Use according to Claim 25, characterized in that the said substance is included in a gel.
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28. Use according to Claim 25, characterized in that the said substance is included in a liquid solution.
- 10 29. Use according to Claim 25, characterized in that the said substance is included in an ointment.
30. Use according to Claim 25, characterized in that the said substance is included in a paste.
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31. Use according to one of Claims 26-30, characterized in that the wound care product is sterile as a whole and is packaged in a sterile manner.
32. Wound dressing in the form of a plaster containing a substance for inhibiting the growth of bacteria in wounds, characterized in that the said substance is xylitol.
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33. Wound dressing according to Claim 32, characterized in that the wound dressing is sterile in its entirety and is packaged in a sterile manner.
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34. Use of xylitol for producing a composition which has a growth-inhibiting effect on bacteria in wounds.
- 30 35. Use according to Claim 34, characterized in that the said composition comprises a liquid solution which contains xylitol.

36. Use according to Claim 34, characterized in that the said composition comprises a gel into which xylitol has been introduced.
37. Use according to Claim 36, characterized in that the said gel
5 comprises a hydrophobic gel, preferably a silicone gel.
38. Use according to one of Claims 34-37, characterized in that the said composition is sterile and is packaged in a sterile manner.